

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Steffen Schlehuber
Entitled: Muteins of the Bilin-Binding Protein
Serial No.: To be assigned
Date Filed: Concurrently

PRE AMENDT/A
AJ
P#7
9-26-02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, Applicant's respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel the second claim 15 without prejudice or disclaimer

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c) (3), please substitute for pending claims 3, 5-8, 13, 15, and 17 with the following clean version of the claims. The changes to these claims are shown explicitly in the attached "Marked Up Version of Claims."

A 3. (Amended) The polypeptide according to claim 1, characterized in that it carries, in comparison with the bilin-binding protein, at least one of the amino acid substitutions selected from Glu(28)->Gln, Lys(31)->Ala, Asn(34)->Asp, Ser(35)->His, Val(36)->Ile, Glu(37)->Thr, Asn(58)->Arg, His(60)->Ser, Ile(69)->Ser, Leu(88)->Tyr, Tyr(90)->Ile, Lys(95)->Gln, Asn(97)->Gly, Tyr(114)->Phe, Lys(116)->Ser, Gln(125)->Met, and Phe(127)->Leu.

A 2. 5. (Amended) The polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it carries at least one label group, selected from enzymatic label, radioactive label, fluorescent